

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of: :  
Serial No. To be Assigned : Examiner: To be Assigned  
5 Filed: Herewith : Group Art Unit: To be Assigned

For: **METHOD AND ARRANGEMENT FOR MAINTAINING AND UPDATING  
NETWORK ELEMENT CONFIGURATION IN AN xDSL NETWORK, AND AN  
xDSL NETWORK ELEMENT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

In conjunction with the filing of the above-referenced U.S. patent application, please preliminarily amend the patent application as follows:

In the Specification:

On page 1, line 5, please delete "TECHNOLOGICAL" and substitute therefore --TECHNICAL--.

On page 3, line 32-33, please delete "is characterised in what is said in the characterising portion of the independent claim that is directed to such a method." and substitute therefore --performs the steps of transmitting a request for configuration information from a first network element located on a first hierarchical level to a second network element located on a second hierarchical level, which second hierarchical level is above the first hierarchical level in the xDSL network but which second network element is other than the network managing station, deciding, at the second network element that is other than the network managing station, whether it is appropriate to read the configuration information requested in the request for configuration information from a configuration memory of the second network element, and in case it is decided to be appropriate, reading

the configuration information requested in the request for configuration information from a configuration memory of the second network element and transmitting the configuration information that was read from the configuration memory of the second network element to the first network element.--

5           On page 4, lines 1-2, please delete “is characterised in what is said in the characterising portion of the independent claim that is directed to such a method.” and substitute therefore --performs the steps of transmitting a request for configuration information from a first network element located on a first hierarchical level towards a second network element located on a second hierarchical level, which second hierarchical level is above the first hierarchical level in the xDSL network, deciding, at the first network element, whether it is appropriate to read the configuration information requested in the request for configuration information from a configuration memory of the first network element, and in case it is decided to be appropriate, reading the configuration information requested in the request for configuration information from a configuration memory of the first network element.--

10           On page 4, lines 7-8, please delete “is characterised in what is said in the characterising portion of the independent claim that is directed to such a method.” and substitute therefore --performs the steps of at a certain first network element that is other than the network managing station and is located on a certain first hierarchical level, receiving a command for changing a piece of configuration information that pertains to a second network element that is located on a certain second hierarchical level, which second hierarchical level is below the first hierarchical level in the xDSL network and storing said piece of configuration information at a configuration memory of the first network element in a form that results from executing said received command.--

20           On page 4, lines 11-13, please delete “characterised in what is said in the characterising portion of the independent claim that is directed to a network element.” and substitute therefore --a network element other than a network managing station and is arranged to communicate with other xDSL network elements that are located on lower hierarchical levels in the xDSL network and with at least one xDSL network element that is located on a higher hierarchical level in the xDSL network, and which network element is

arranged to store configuration information pertaining to the network element; wherein the network element is also arranged to store configuration information pertaining to at least one xDSL network element that is located on a lower hierarchical level in the xDSL network.--

On page 4, lines 16-17, please delete “characterised in what is said in the characterising portion of the independent claim that is directed to a network.” and substitute therefore --an xDSL network comprising network elements on certain hierarchical levels and a network managing station, wherein the improvement lies in that a number of other network elements than the network managing station are arranged to store configuration information pertaining to network elements that are located on lower hierarchical levels in the xDSL network than the network element at which the configuration information is stored.--

On page 16, line 20, please delete “involves always” and substitute therefore --always involves--.

On page 28, line 26, prior to “if”, please delete “the” and substitute therefore --that--.

On page 28, line 38, following “invention”, please insert --also--.

On page 28, line 38, following “changes”, please delete “also” and substitute therefore --to--.

In the Abstract:

On page 24, line 1, following “Abstract”, please add --of the Disclosure--.

On page 24, line 4, please delete “(201, 202, 203, 211)”.

On page 24, line 6, please delete “(302, 401)”.

On page 24, line 12, please delete “(404,”.

On page 24, line 13, please delete “408),”.

On page 24, line 18, please delete “(406) the”.

On page 24, line 20, please delete “(407)”.

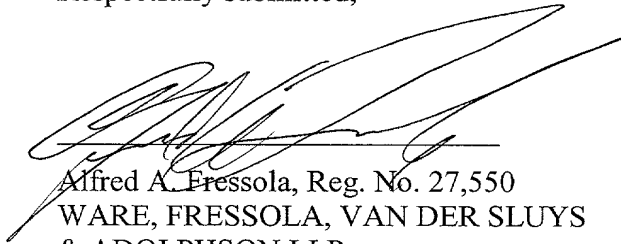
On page 24, line 21, please delete “Fig. 2”.

REMARKS

This preliminary amendment is filed for the purpose of placing the application into  
5 standard U. S. format. Consideration and allowance of the claims is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

10 Date: December 29, 2000



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